of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any train between Bijnor (Uttar Pradesh) and Allahabad with 'Sleeper Coach' facility at present;

(b) whether this facility has been withdrawn on or about 1st June, 1993;

(c) whether it is a fact that the people of Bijnor have been agitating for restoration of this facility together with addition of one more unreserved coach; and

(d) if so. Government will favourably respond to their expectation and demand and by when the needful will be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir. However, a through coach (Sleeper class) was available between Bijnor and Allahabad.

(b) Running of the through coach has been discontinued w.e.f. 1-7-1993. However, the quota for Bijnor has been kept intact by Nauchandi Express ex. Gajraula.

(c) There have been demands for restoration of the through coach.

(d) Being examined and action as found feasible and justified will be taken.

Rail link between Fazilka and Narwana

3017. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct the rail link between Fazilka and Narwana to provide facilities to the agriculturally rich areas, like Khanauri, Pattran and Samana;

(b) whether Government propose to link Patiala with Chandigarh' by rail, if so, by what time it will be materialised;

(c) whether a double track is being laid between Delhi and Ferozepur via Jind and Jakhal;

(d) if so, by what time the project is going to be completed; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to electrify the rail link between Delhi and Ferozepur, if so, by what time it is going to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Survey for linking Chandigarh with Rajpura to provide a direct link to Patiala has been sanctioned and taken up in 1993-94. Further action will be taken based on results of the survey and availability of resources in the coming years.

(c) and (d) Delhi-Samargopalpur is already a double line. Kinana-Basola and Ghaso-Himmfltpura sections on Rohatak-Jakhal section have been doubled.

Doubling on Himmatpura-Jakhal section is expected to be completed during the current year. Doubling of balance patches on this route has not been sanctioned as yet.

(e) No, Sir. However, Delhi-Shakurbasti, a part of Delhi-Ferozepur section is already electrified.

विकलांग व्यक्तियों द्वारा रेल में यात्रा किया जाना

3018. श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कितने विकलांग व्यक्तियों द्वारा वर्ष 1991-92 और 1992-93 में किस-किस श्रेणी में यात्रा की गई और इसके परिणामस्वरूप रेलवे को कितना आर्थिक भार पड़ा;

(ख) इन व्यक्तियों की विकलांगता के निर्धारण के लिये क्या आवश्यक मानदण्ड और शर्तें निर्धारित की गई हैं;

(ग) क्या किसी टिकटधारी व्यक्ति के साथ यात्रा करने वाले विकलांग व्यक्ति को अपने लिये केवल एक-चौथाई किराया देने का पात्र बनाया गया है; यदि नहीं, तो क्या इस प्रावधान पर विचार किया जायेगा;

(घ) क्या आगे से यह घोषणा की गई है कि वैशाखियों और अन्य बाह्य साधनों का उपयोग करने वाले विकलांग व्यक्ति ऐसी रियायतों के पात्र होंगे; और

(ङ) विकलांग व्यक्ति के साथ उसकी यात्रा में सहायकों के रूप में मान्य पात्र व्यक्तियों का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० सी० लेंका) : (क) जिन विकलांग व्यक्तियोंने रेल यात्रा रियायत का लाभ उठाया, उनकी संख्या और इसके परिणाम स्वरूप रेलों पर पड़ने वाले आर्थिक बोझ के आंकड़े आलग से नहीं रखे जाते ।

(ख) से (ङ) कतिपय अशक्तताओं से पीड़ित व्यक्तियों की निम्नलिखित कोटियां रेल यात्रा रियायत के लिए पात्र हैं :—